

**REMARKS**

In response to the Election of Species Requirement dated January 29, 2009, Applicants elect Species I for prosecution, with traverse. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, (9), 10 and 11 read thereon.

In reference to Fig. 1, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the packaging pouch comprises a packaging pouch body 1 and a branched section 3, the packaging pouch body and the branched section having first and second (i.e., left and right) sides, characterized in that opening preventive means 7 are formed separately from one another on an inner side of a peripheral seal part of both sides of each of the branched section and an opposing section 6 of the packaging pouch body opposing the branched section. Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the peripheral edge seal part and the vapor release seal part each have a sealing strength of 2.3 kg/15 mm or more (i.e., the recitation of claim 9). Claim 9 has been canceled.

Applicants traverse and respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the Election of Species Requirement for the reason that amended claim 1, and therefore all of the claims, contain the above-noted special technical feature (i.e., opening preventive means formed separately from one another on an inner side of a peripheral edge seal part of both sides of each of the branched section and an opposing section of the packaging pouch body opposing the branched section) that represents an advance in the art (i.e., a patentably distinguishing feature). Claim 1 as amended herein is substantially in the same form as allowed in the corresponding application in the Japanese Patent Office.

No new matter has been added.

Entry of the amendment and allowance of claims 1-8, 10 and 11 is earnestly solicited.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT  
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Application No.: 10/570,269

Attorney Docket No.: Q92994

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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